

Call to Order

Hadi Dudley, Library Director, called the meeting to order at 1:03 pm.

Attendees: Betsy Batey, Megan Bolinder, Cynthia Cochran, Matthew Moses, Michelle Stamps Pritchett, Nathan Pollet, Judy Marquess, Teresa Stafford, Octavio Sanchez, Hadi Dudley and Vira Kousol.

The group met via Zoom videoconferencing.

Approval of March 3, 2021 Minutes

The group reviewed the minutes from the March 3, 2021 meeting. Megan Bolinder moved, Betsy Batey seconded, to approve the minutes as presented. The March 3, 2021 board minutes were approved as presented.

Agenda Items

1. Hadi Dudley gave updates on Library Needs Assessment Study
 - a. Grant report to Walton Family Foundation submitted March 30, 2021
 - i. We met all of our goals except for one that was related to the foreign language survey responses.
 - ii. Groups serving ESL patrons participated in meetings and/or attended workshops: Literacy Council of Benton County, NWACC Adult Education group and Bentonville Schools' ESL Center.
 - b. Final Needs Assessment report was printed and distributed.
 - i. Hard copies were shared with all the city council members, the mayor, the foundation and city steering committee members
 - ii. We also have hard copies of the report available at the library for patrons to check out, and copy for reference as an archive
 - c. Microsite complete: bplexpansion.org
 - i. The new Bentonville public library expansion website will be announced during the National Library Week.
2. Hadi gave City Updates
 - a. Bond Extension Information
 - i. April 13 – Special Election for bond extension; early voting has begun
 - ii. Website: bentonvillebond.com
 - iii. Public Meeting – Bentonville Bond Extension
 1. April 8, 2021 at 6PM ([Zoom invitation](#): passcode 738365)
 - iv. Boards & Commissions Training
 1. April 9 at Noon, at the Bentonville Community Center or via [Zoom](#)
3. Hadi gave Library Updates
 - a. COVID-19 protocol update: BPL moved to 'Phase 2 of Level 2' of library services
 - i. The City of Bentonville is recommending all employees and patrons entering public facilities to continue wearing face masks until April 16
 1. Face masks continue to be required for patrons inside the Library until April 16
 2. The 16th coincides with the City's efforts to get all of the employees vaccinated
 - ii. The library returned to operating with full services, along with returning to normal hours.
 - iii. The book drops also opened for returns this week.

- iv. The library is slowly reinstating services and adjusting protocols
- v. Possible of returning some of the seating to the library - early May
- vi. Outdoor programming option is the next opportunity for us, and opened up picture books out for the public
- vii. In-person program in summer, and may bring back volunteers
- b. Systems and technology update – recent LinkedIn Learning upgrade
 - i. Last meeting, Hadi mentioned the library systems upgrade and that we had significant problems with LinkedIn with Lynda.com services not reinstated in a timely manner.
 - ii. This past week, Lynda.com migrated to LinkedIn Learning, scheduled to be down for 6 hours which by Tuesday morning the system was still down. We initiated the service calls and tickets, but we do not have an estimated time for service reinstatement. Hadi noted that company’s customer response and technical support continues to disappoint.
- c. This is National Library Week – “Welcome to Your Library”
 - i. This is Your Public Library – postcard and poster giveaways
 - 1. Artwork custom designed by Aaron W. Jones
 - ii. National Library Worker’s Day (April 6)
 - 1. Friends of the library and library foundation sponsored a lunch for all of the staff – lunch was catered by 211 Café
 - iii. National Library Giving Day (April 7)
 - iv. City of Bentonville Employee – Library Card Sign-up Event
 - 1. This week, BPL is promoting the library card sign-up event for City employees
- d. BPL’s Backyard – gardens and outdoor programming on the new lawn
 - i. Michelle gave the group a brief update on the meeting with the master gardeners on 3/29, and how we can incorporate garden projects into a storytime, so kids can learn about the vegetables, herbs, flowers, and native plants.

At the conclusion of BPL’s reports, group members discussed a “Diversity Reading Challenge” that was proposed as a Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI) activity. The reading activity and DEI issues will be discussed again.

- 4. Judy Marquess gave Friends of the Library Report
 - a. Multiple messages have been shared with membership regarding the Bentonville Bond Proposal
 - b. Continue to receive donations, including a large ReaderLink donation
 - c. Pop-up sale on the veranda on April 10th, focusing on Children and history books
 - d. Pop-up sale on the veranda on May 1st, featuring fiction for adults, YA and children. Lots of good Beach Reads!
 - e. Total revenue for March was \$2,061.17, which included book store sales, Amazon, memberships, and miscellaneous
 - i. Year to Date revenue \$4,675.19
 - ii. Expenses for March \$1,065.13, and Year to Date expenses \$4,802.92
- 5. Teresa Stafford gave the Library Foundation Report
 - f. 2021 totals YTD:
 - i. 81 donations
 - ii. Dollars = \$56,408.20
 - iii. Walmart’s MLK Day of Giving = \$7,801.14
 - 1. \$5,000 has been designated to the Mayor’s Book Club
 - 2. \$2,800 has been designated to the Tech Card Program
 - iv. Spring appeal = \$12,195
 - v. National Library Giving Day = \$435.00

1. A Constant Contact E-blast was sent to all BLF donors with email addresses in the database
 2. E-blast sent on both National Library Workers Day (4/6) and National Library Giving Day (4/7)
- g. The MSR Design Executive Summary was mailed with a cover letter from Howard Kerr and Teresa Stafford to all BLF Giving Society members – along with all individuals identified in the predictive-analytics project. The cover letter was an endorsement of the bond
 - h. Lead gift negotiations for the building expansion continue
 - i. Next meetings will be scheduled after bond vote
 - i. Event plans in collaboration with Rope Swing / Mike Spivey and Buddy Pegs / Donald Butcher
 - j. *Celebrate Arkansas* article planned for May issue
 - i. 2 versions are being prepared – bond approved / BLF next steps should bond fail
 - k. Booked for the Evening – October date to be confirmed
 - l. The next foundation board meeting is Monday, May 10th.

The Library Advisory Board will meet Wednesday, May 5, 2021 at 1 pm via Zoom

Adjournment

The Library Advisory Board adjourned at 2:05 pm.

LAB Zoom Meeting Info: February – July (recurring)

Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android:

<https://bentonville.zoom.us/j/82555950771?pwd=N2oyU29wZWtsUkhHU2VvYjZCZ0VMUT09>

Password: 216525

Or Telephone:

USA 720 514 4182

USA 8883405470 (US Toll Free)

Conference code: 3264734